

## V. THOROUGHFARE PLAN

### Major Thoroughfare System

The LaGrange major thoroughfare system includes Carey Street, the Eastern Loop (SR 1518 and SR 1327), Forbes Street, NC 903 (Caswell Street), South Railroad Street, SR 1503 (Herring Road/Forbes Street), SR 1515, SR 1603 (Washington Street), and US 70. Figure 6 delineates these roads. The function of each of these roads and recommended improvements will be discussed in this section. Typical thoroughfare cross-sections are shown in Appendix B and Appendix C summarizes the thoroughfare plan street tabulation and recommendations.

**Carey Street** - This north-south route connects the two east-west major thoroughfares of South Railroad Street and Washington Street (SR 1603) in the downtown area. The function of this road will increase in importance when South Railroad Street and Washington Street are converted into a one-way pair since Carey Street will be the eastern boundary of the one-way pair designation. While this will increase traffic volumes on Carey Street, the existing two-lane cross-section should still remain adequate to handle anticipated future traffic volumes.

**Eastern Loop** - This bypass facility will be comprised of portions of SR 1518 and SR 1327 with new road corridors connecting sections of these state roads. SR 1518 will be paved this fiscal year. The entire facility will be approximately five miles long and will connect NC 903 north of LaGrange with US 70 east of LaGrange.

This facility will allow nonlocal traffic to bypass the downtown area. This is particularly critical for truck traffic which has problems with the steep slope of railroad track crossings in downtown. It will also provide a quick route for commuters to access US 70 for jobs in Goldsboro and Kinston. This will increase in importance with the development of Transpark in Kinston.

Another benefit of the Bypass will be to reduce traffic volumes on NC 903, which will be approaching capacity in the future. A two-lane rural cross-section should be adequate to handle traffic volumes projected on the Eastern Loop.

**Forbes Street** - This north-south route connects SR 1503 in the west with SR 1603 (Washington Street) in the downtown area. This allows access from residential areas in the northwestern portion of LaGrange to the Central Business District. The existing two-lane cross-section of Forbes Street should be adequate to handle anticipated future traffic volumes.